



**Infant and Maternal Mortality Task Force (IMMT)  
Community Engagement Subcommittee  
May 7, 2020  
11:00am-12:00pm  
Minutes**

Location

Webex Conference Call

View the recording of the meeting:

<https://illinois.webex.com/recording-service/sites/illinois/recording/playback/4290422802834e679a5a28fd673d8889>

Minutes

1. Call to order- 11:07 am
  - a. Present: Tamela Milan Alexander, Stacy Carreon, Shirley Fleming, Virginia Julion, Jessica Lamberson, Bonnie McQueen, Karyn Stewart, Debra Wesley.
2. Public Comment- n/a
3. Old Business– Survey
  - a. Beginning to brainstorm questions that the group would like to see on the Community Survey.
  - b. Frame questions to the community such as, “What is it that is helpful to you in your pregnancy?” and questions that use simple and concise language is key.
  - c. [Reviewed the Social Determinants of Health Needs Assessment Survey](#) from Colorado to use as a starting point in framing questions but agreed that not all the questions found on this survey should be included.
  - d. The basis of this survey will be assets and strengths as to what mothers find helpful.
  - e. The survey should be ten questions max.
  - f. Make sure we teach women how to best advocate for themselves.
  - g. However, it is also important for providers at all levels to understand that their behavior or small nuances that can turn a person off.
  - h. There are signs and body language from the provider that tells the mother that they are not being heard or listened to.
  - i. This survey or tool should try and get this information to help providers.

- j. Questions can include, “What makes you feel welcome?” “What makes you feel listened to?”
  - k. Open ended questions can lead to advocacy changes and behavioral health changes on the medical provider side as well.
  - l. The most common factor from moms that have experienced losses is that they are not being seen as an individual, they are not being heard, and if their health insurance changes from private insurance to a public aid, they are being dismissed.
  - m. From the survey answers, the group can then form recommendations based on the feedback from the community.
  - n. Research will also accompany the recommendations and guidance’s performed.
  - o. A sample for this survey will be important and the group will ask the general Task Force if there is anyone who has the skill set to perform a sample. Sinai Urban Health Institute was suggested.
4. New Business
- a. Reviewed the Massachusetts Medical Mistrust Index V2.2 Mistrust in Healthcare
  - b. Even an educated black woman with good health insurance has to advocate for her own health.
  - c. The Index may have language that could help formulate questions for the survey.
  - d. Capture how people are feeling supported or if they’re feeling respected.
5. Next Steps
- a. Recommendations will come from not only the research, but most importantly the second recommendation will come from the answers of the community members based on the analysis of their needs to try and create medical wholeness.
  - b. Work Groups
    - i. Survey– Shirley Fleming, Jessica Lamberson, Virginia Julion, Tamela Milan
    - ii. Research & Literature– Karyn Stewart & Jessica Lamberson
6. Adjournment- 12:52pm